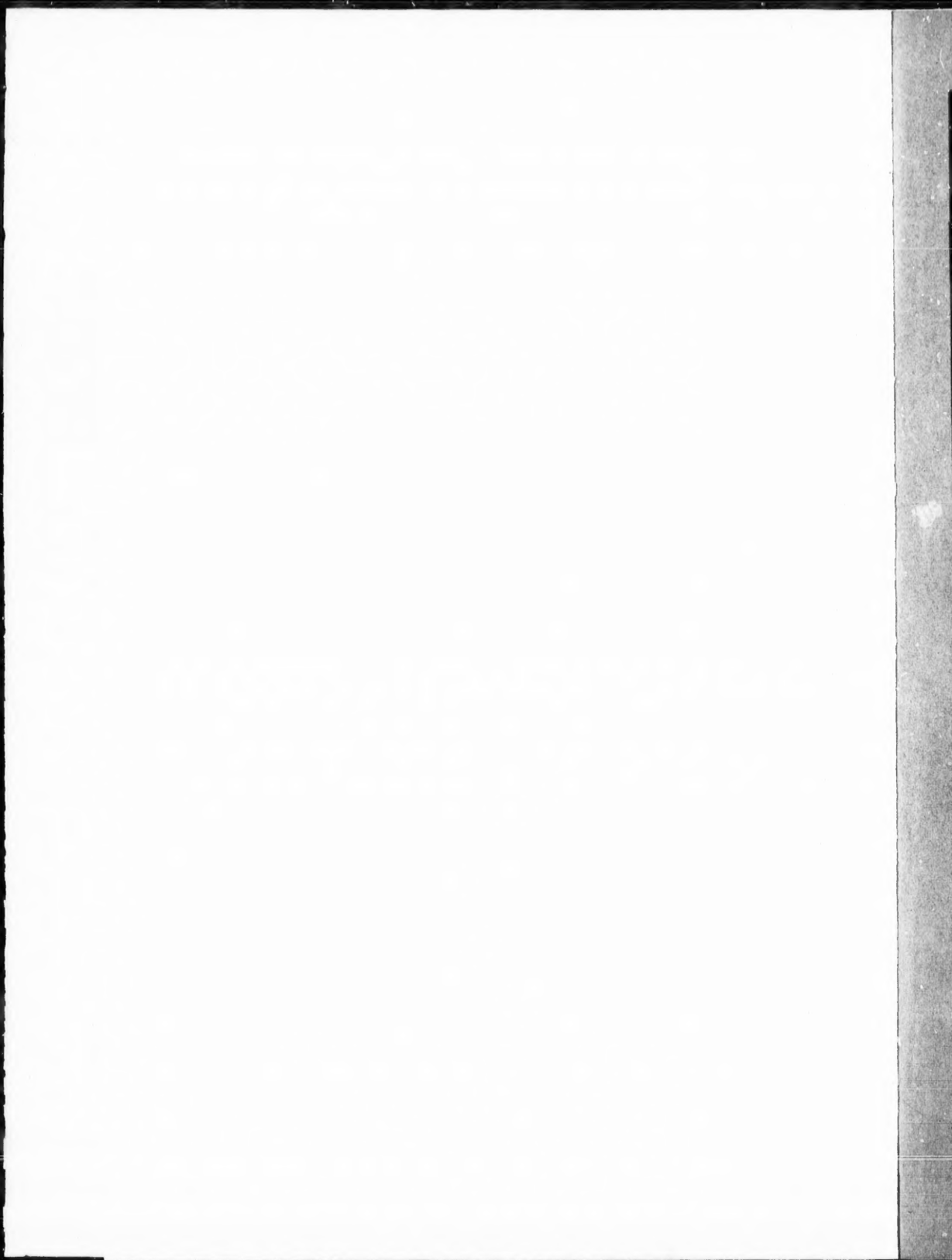




3787135
T213

TRINITY COLLEGE

CONDUCTED AS

A Mere Boys' School,

NOT AS A COLLEGE.

TORONTO, APRIL, 1858.

T



TRINITY COLLEGE

CONDUCTED AS

A Mere Boys' School,

NOT AS A COLLEGE.

TORONTO, APRIL, 1858.

L 55582

Nov. 3/58

The accompanying copy of a Correspondence, &c., which will explain itself, is submitted by the undersigned without comment, to the calm consideration of all those who have any interest in Trinity College.

GEORGE T. DENISON.

RUSHOLME, Toronto, 29th April, 1858.

THE COMPLAINT.

TRINITY COLLEGE,

Toronto, April 15, 1858.

MY DEAR SIR:—

I am very sorry to be obliged to inform you, that your son George can attend no lecture in the College till I have seen the Bishop respecting his conduct to-day, which I intend to do to-morrow.

I observed that while the rest of his year were engaged in taking notes of my lecture, he was amusing himself by drawing or scribbling, and I went to his place and attempted to take up the paper, which he kept from me by main force, without any kind of remonstrance or apology. I then was compelled to order him to leave the room, but he maintained his seat, till I told him that unless he left *immediately* he would be *certainly expelled from the College*. I deeply regret that I should be under the necessity of making this painful communication to you, but, as you are on the spot, I do not think it right to leave you in ignorance of what has occurred, or of the course which I propose to adopt.

I am, my dear Sir,

Yours very truly,

GEORGE WHITAKER.

To George T. Denison, Esq.,

Rusholme.

TRINITY COLLEGE,

TORONTO, April 16th, 1858.

MY DEAR SIR :

I shall be happy to see you any time this evening after six o'clock, but I am obliged to be out from three o'clock to six.

I am,

Yours very truly,

GEORGE WHITAKER.

George T. Denison, Esq.

THE APOLOGY DICTATED AND WRITTEN BY THE
PROVOST.

REVEREND SIR:—

I hereby beg to express my deep regret for the misconduct of which I was guilty in your Lecture Room, on Thursday last, trusting that you will kindly consent to overlook it; and I also avow my sincere determination to act for the future in conformity with the promise which I made at my matriculation, that I would, by God's help, during my residence in the College, faithfully obey the laws thereof, and diligently attend to the studies required of me, and I request also that this letter may be read in the presence of the students of my year.

I am,
Reverend Sir,
Yours obediently,
GEORGE T. DENISON, Jr.

TRINITY COLLEGE,
Toronto, April 17, 1858.

MY DEAR SIR:—

I cannot accept the letter in the form in which it is sent, and I am satisfied that on consideration you will feel that it is out of the question.

I am, my dear Sir,
Yours truly,
GEORGE WHITAKER.

To George T. Denison, Esq.,
Rusholme.

RUSHOLME, 17th April, 1858.

MY DEAR SIR:—

Since you have refused to receive the apology of my son as dictated and written by yourself, you are now at liberty to take any course you may think proper. I shall send him to College on

Monday as usual, and I shall feel obliged if you would be kind enough, in the mean time, to forward to me a copy of all the rules non-residents are expected to observe when at College.

I am, my dear Sir,

Yours very truly,

GEORGE T. DENISON.

The Rev. George Whitaker, M. A.,
Provost, Trinity College.

TORONTO, 17th April, 1858.

MY DEAR SIR :

Instead of sending your son George, on Monday morning, to Trinity College, have the goodness to send him first to me, that I may have some conversation with him on the unfortunate affair about which we were talking so long. As profit than, I wish, this forenoon.

I remain, my dear

Yours,

JOHN TORONTO.

George T. Denison, Esq.,
Rusholme.

NOTE—Mr. George Denison, junr., having gone to the Bishop, His Lordship verbally requested him to go home to his father and ask his permission to write off the apology in his own hand and signature.

TRINITY COLLEGE,

Toronto, April 19th, 1858.

MY DEAR SIR :—

I am very sorry that we should in any way have misunderstood each other yesterday, as to what I required of your son. It never occurred to me, that you could suppose, that the piece of waste paper, on which I wrote a rough copy of the proposed letter was intended to receive his signature. What I proposed, with the Bishop's sanction to accept, was a letter from him in the terms pre-

scribed, written, as any other communication of a private nature would ordinarily be, in the handwriting of the person sending it, and on such paper, as the ordinary usages of society proscribe; nothing could have been farther from my intention, than to make this morning, any captious addition to the terms which I understood you to accept yesterday. By those terms, *as I then interpreted them*, I must abide, assured as I am that they were dictated by a desire to consult, so far as my duty permitted me, the personal feelings of one with whom I had maintained friendly relations for upwards of six years.

I am, my dear Sir,

Yours very truly,

GEORGE WHITAKER.

George T. Denisen, Esq.,
Rusholme.

RUSHOLME, 19th April, 1858.

MY DEAR SIR :

In answer to your note of Saturday, persisting in demanding another apology from my son, I am sorry to be obliged to say that, taking a very different view of the subject to yourself, I cannot accede to your request, feeling that you have stepped beyond the bounds necessary for maintaining your *dignity*; and having converted a supposed affront offered by my son, into a personal matter between us, I must leave you to follow your own course. I have appealed to the Bishop, and although his Lordship wishes me to comply with your request, I feel that I cannot be treated with contumely merely to allow you to carry your own views, as I think, a little to far, and I have submitted my reasons to the Bishop, which I have no doubt he will shew you, for taking the course I have done.

Allow me at the same time to express my deep regret that anything should have occurred to disturb the kindly feeling and respect I have always hitherto entertained towards you, and the

regard I could not but have always felt for the success of Trinity College, but you must make allowance for even a worm to turn when trodden upon by a large person.

Allow me to subscribe myself,

Yours very respectfully,

GEORGE T. DENISON.

Rev'd. George Whitaker, M.A.,

Trinity College.

RUSHOLME, 19th April, 1858.

MY DEAR LORD BISHOP:

I regret very much that, notwithstanding the high esteem and respect I entertain for your Lordship, as the father and founder of Trinity College, and the friend and pastor of my forefathers in this country, I cannot in justice to myself, and my own self-respect, although at the request of your Lordship, consent, that the Provost of Trinity College shall bring my son into any further subjugation for the offence (? if any) which he may have committed, than he has so far already imposed upon him: and I take this stand upon the following reasons, viz.:

1stly. Because the apology he signed was dictated and written by the Provost himself, clearly, neatly, and without any alteration or erasure, or even a blot, and upon a clean half-sheet of College note paper.

2ndly. Because I thought that was the intention of the Provost at the time, inasmuch as he, having consented to erase one word from its original composition, wrote it all out afresh.

3rdly. Because, the getting it signed by my son, and sending the apology to the Provost, being my acts, not the acts of my son, —its return to me by the Provost, declaring he could not and would not receive it "*in the form in which it was sent*" (that being a form of his own choosing) was highly offensive to me, by insinuating that I should have known better than to send it to him in that manner, thereby offending his dignity, assuming to himself a superiority over me also, which I have yet to learn is the case, and that it was a piece of presumption on my part in sending it to him in that shape.

4thly. Because the Provost, in my opinion, by refusing to receive from the hands of a parent (not from the student) an apology got up, as that was, by himself alone, forsook the ground upon which he had been standing, namely, that of maintaining his own dignity and the discipline of the College, by bringing a student into subjection for (at least) a supposed offence, and stooped to perpetrate an act of uncalled-for tyranny and overbearing, much more offensive to me, and unbecoming in him, than even that unwise act of his, which alone led to the unfortunate occurrence, which we all, for the sake of the College, deplore having happened.

5thly. Because I do not think my son has violated either the ordinary rules of genteel society, in using force to force with the Provost, under the circumstances as they exist in this case, or any rule or usage of the College in all he has done; and that any person unconnected with the institution upon hearing both sides, and considering the *position* and *age* of both parties, would accord to my son the credit of having committed himself the less.

6thly. Because when I consented to my son's signing that apology, I did not think at the time, it was a just one for him to put his name to, and I was only led to allowing it, by the strong feelings of friendship and regard I had always entertained for both the Provost and the College, which I am very sorry to be obliged to say, have been seriously impaired by this transaction.

Having, my Lord, given you my reasons for not allowing my son to sign any other paper than that once offered, I need hardly draw your Lordship's attention, as the head of the institution, to the fact, that my son, having committed no act to deprive him of the benefits he is entitled to as a matriculated student of Trinity College, shall continue his attendance as usual, I claiming as his guardian all his legal rights as such.

I am, my dear Lord Bishop,

With all respect,

Yours most affectionately,

GEORGE T. DENISON.

The Right Reverend,

The Lord Bishop of Toronto.

TORONTO, 19th April, 1858.

SIR :—

I have read your letter with much regret, because its spirit and expression are not what I had reason to expect.

As you most unfortunately refuse to suffer your son to comply with the very gentle terms proposed, it becomes absolutely necessary that his connexion with the College should cease. A voluntary withdrawal is now open to him; but should he present himself at the College Lectures, which I trust he will not do, we shall be under the painful necessity of proceeding to a formal expulsion.

I remain, Sir,

Your obedient humble servant,

JOHN TORONTO.

George T. Denison, Esq.

To the President and Members composing the Council of Trinity College :

GENTLEMEN :—

My son, Mr. George Taylor Denison, an undergraduate of Trinity College, now just completing his third year, having this day been refused permission to his lectures by order of the Provost, I beg permission, as his lawful guardian, (he being a minor), to report the circumstance to your Honorable Council, entering my protest against the authority of the Provost for so doing; my son not having violated any by-law, order, rule, or regulation of the College, and therefore I demand an investigation into the circumstances, to ascertain whether he has committed any act to deprive him of his just rights as an undergraduate of that institution. Trusting your honorable body will see justice done in the premises, I have the honor to subscribe myself,

Your most obedient humble servant,

GEORGE T. DENISON.

Rusholme, 20th April, 1858.

RUSHOLME, 21st April, 1858.

REVEREND SIR:—

As I feel in duty bound to appeal to the Council of Trinity College for protection to my son, from what I am now obliged to consider unjust treatment, I have the honor to enclose my communication on the subject to you, as the proper channel through which it should pass, with a request, that you will lay the same before the Council at its next meeting, which I believe will take place this afternoon.

I have the honor to be,
Reverend Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
GEORGE T. DENISON.

The Rev. George Whitaker, M.A.
Provost, Trinity College.

TRINITY COLLEGE,
TORONTO, April 21st, 1858.

SIR:

I will lay your communication before the College Council at its meeting this afternoon.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
GEORGE WHITAKER.

George T. Denison, Esq.

TRINITY COLLEGE,
Toronto, 21st April, 1858.

SIR:—

I am directed by the Council of Trinity College to transmit to you the following minute of Council made this day on the subject of your Memorial to the Council.

“The Council of Trinity College having by statute delegated the power of enforcing discipline to the Provost and Professors (with the proviso however, that no sentence of rustication or expulsion

"shall be pronounced without the sanction of the Bishop of Toronto)
 "have no direct authority to deal with Mr. Denison's memorial.

"They have however, at the request of the Provost, and with
 "the consent of the Bishop, received it; and with his Lordship's
 "sanction they beg to express to Mr. Denison their unanimous
 "resolution to sustain, by the moral weight to which their opinion
 "may be entitled, proceedings which have been taken throughout
 "with the Bishop's cognizance and approval.

"As the required apology was subscribed by Mr. Denison's son,
 "the only point at issue between the authorities of the College and
 "himself, relates, not to the substance of the apology, but to the
 "form in which it ought to be transmitted. On this point there
 "can be no doubt whatever, and the Council cannot but regard
 "Mr. Denison's objection as most groundless, while they consider,
 "that any compromise must be fatal to the character of the Col-
 "lege.

"The conduct which Mr. Denison's son adopted on Tuesday, and
 "repeated this day, has so materially aggravated the original
 "offence, that little hope can now be entertained of any good
 "result from his return to his position in the College.

"It therefore remains for Mr. Denison to consider whether he
 "will allow his son to withdraw peaceably from the College, giving
 "the authorities no further annoyance; or whether he will draw
 "upon his son the severe penalty of a formal expulsion; in the
 "former case the College will be able to furnish certificates of
 "terms kept and of examinations passed, which will enable Mr.
 "Denison's son to pursue his studies elsewhere without loss of time,
 "but if the College should be driven, by further outrage, to pass a
 "sentence of expulsion, no certificate of any description can be
 "granted after that step has been taken."

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

CHARLES MAGRATH,

Bursar & Secretary.

George T. Denison, Esq.

RUSHOLME, 22nd April, 1858.

SIR :—

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of yesterday's date, embodying a copy of a minute passed by the Council of Trinity College, which, while setting forth that the Council have no direct authority to deal with the matter, receives the memorial, and rejecting its prayer "to grant me an enquiry "to ascertain if my son has committed any act to deprive him of "his rights as an undergraduate," proceed to justify the course of the Provost in refusing his lectures without giving him any reason for so doing.

The Council having referred to an apology being sent, I may remark for the information of that body, that when the Provost complained to me to the effect that my son had applied force to force to retain possession of a piece of paper, his own property, taken into the lecture room for his own private use, which the Provost, unfortunately forgetting his own dignity, I contend, very rudely attempted to snatch from him, without first asking for it, I admit that being a friend to the Institution from its commencement, and to gratify the Provost, I did consent that my son should sign an apology, which the Provost himself dictated and wrote out at length, leaving the place for his signature. This apology my son signed and I enclosed it to the Provost, but he having returned it to me, refusing to accept it in the form in which it was sent, I withdrew it, and appealed to the Lord Bishop for redress, setting forth my reasons at length for not allowing him to sign any other; the Bishop answered my appeal, refusing redress, and threatening expulsion. I was then driven to the Council, who now tell me my son shall have no opportunity of explaining or justifying himself, which I feel certain he could do, before any *impartial* tribunal. I may state here, that during an interview with the Bishop, previously to writing to his Lordship, he admitted to me that the Provost was wrong in endeavouring to obtain forcible possession of my son's paper, without asking for it, merely because he thought he was scribbling upon it and not taking notes; and now forsooth, my son is to be sacrificed to cover the indiscretion of the Provost. I have

April, 1858.

ur communica-
ute passed by
forth that the
tter, receives
e an enquiry
deprive him of
the course of
m any reason

g sent, I may
n the Provost
plied force to
own property,
e, which the
contend, very
asking for it, I
mmencement,
n should sign
wrote out at
ology my son
g returned it
t was sent, I
dress, setting
n any other;
l threatening
w tell me my
ying himself,
tribunal. I
p, previously
Provost was
of my son's
ought he was
ooth, my son
ost. I have

therefore no alternative open to me but to insist upon my son's rights, so long as he is a member of the College, and if a member can be expelled without any offence against its rules, or against propriety, and without even a hearing, the certificate of terms kept, at an Institution acting upon such unjust and unreasonable principles, I should not value worth the paper they might be written upon.

I shall therefore insist upon my son's rights, and should the Council persist in refusing me justice, I shall only be driven to seek it elsewhere.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

GEORGE T. DENISON.

Charles Magrath, Esq.,
Bursar and Secretary,
Trinity College, Toronto.

TRINITY COLLEGE,

Toronto, 24th April, 1858.

SIR:—

I am directed to inform you that as your son has not availed himself of the indulgence which the authorities of this College were willing to grant, of offering a written apology to the Provost, in the manner which was pointed out to him in a written communication to you, he will be required in accordance with the Statute of the College in that behalf, to appear before the Provost and Professors of Arts, on Monday, the 26th day of April, instant, at the hour of twelve o'clock, at noon, to shew cause why he should not be expelled from Trinity College, for insolent and insubordinate conduct to the College authorities.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES MAGRATH,

Secretary.

George T. Denison, Esq.

TRINITY COLLEGE,

TORONTO, 24th April, 1858.

Mr. George Taylor Denison, Jr. :—

You are hereby required to appear before the Provost and Professors in Arts of Trinity College, on Monday next, the 26th day of April, instant, in the Council Room, at the hour of twelve o'clock, at noon, to shew cause why you should not be expelled from the College, for insolent and insubordinate conduct to the College authorities.

By order.

CHARLES MAGRATH,

Secretary.

To the Provost and Professors in Arts of Trinity College:

GENTLEMEN :—

I do hereby demand a copy of the specific charges of insolent and insubordinate conduct which my son is called upon to answer upon the summons to appear here this day.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

GEORGE T. DENISON,

Father of MR. GEORGE TAYLOR DENISON, JR.

RUSHHOLME, 26th April, 1858.

MY LORD :—

My son having been summoned to shew cause this day at noon, before the Provost and Professors in Arts of Trinity College, why he should not be expelled from the College for insolent and insubordinate conduct, I appeared with him, and was refused a defence, although he denied having violated any rule of the College; and was also refused, upon demand in writing, a copy of the specific charges of insolent and insubordinate conduct, which my son is called upon to answer, upon the summons to appear there this day; and he was prevented from saying a word in his defence,

by the Provost leaving the room. I therefore protest against such unreasonable and unjust proceedings, and have the honor to enclose to your Lordship, the defence which was tendered to and rejected by the Provost and the Bursar, trusting your Lordship will see justice done in the premises,

I have the honor to be, my Lord,

Your most obedient servant,

GEORGE T. DENISON.

The Right Reverend

The Lord Bishop of Toronto.

MAGRATH,
Secretary.

THE DEFENCE AS TENDERED AND REFUSED.

To the Provost and Professors in Arts of Trinity College, Toronto.

GENTLEMEN :—

In compliance with a Note I have received, and a Summons to my son, I have appeared with him, to answer a charge, which, not being specified in any tangible manner in the summons, by which he appears called upon to shew cause why he should not be expelled from this College for insolent and insubordinate conduct to the College authorities, it seems like having to prove a negative; while, had it been pointedly stated and proved what his offence was, I might more satisfactorily have answered it; as it is, I can only imagine the charges intended to be made, by inferring them from the Provost's letter of complaint to me, and the minute of Council sent me. Thus assuming or anticipating them, I take the charges to be—

1st. That my son withheld a paper he had in his possession, which the Provost wished to get from him.

2nd. That when ordered from the room by the Provost, he did not leave until the order was repeated with a threat of expulsion.

3rd. That he appeared at College, and presented himself for Lectures after the apology was sent in and rejected.

These I take to be all the charges against him, which, while I enter a protest against his being called upon to shew cause against

April, 1858.

the Provost and
next, the 26th
hour of twelve
not be expelled
conduct to the

College:

charges of insolent
upon to answer

nt,
DENISON,
r DENISON, JR.

April, 1858.

on this day at
Trinity College,
or insolent and
was refused a
e of the Col-
a copy of the
uct, which my
appear there
n his defence,

vague and unspecified charges, as the summons calls upon him to do, I shall endeavour to answer them as well as the short time allowed will permit.

I will premise by stating that the nature of the punishment threatened, being the utmost the College can inflict for the most heinous offence imaginable. I must be excused for going more searchingly into particulars, and more lengthily into my son's defence, than I might under other circumstances have deemed necessary.

The first charge then, as I assume it is, that my son, when in the Provost's room during lecture, withheld a paper which the Provost attempted to take from him. This seems to include the whole offence, because the others are mere sequences, necessarily arising out of the refusal to give up the paper, which I will answer as they come up. There being no charges specified, of course there is no evidence taken to establish them, and such being the case, I am obliged (contrary to all the principles of trial for offence) to suppose, or rather infer the charge, and then to shew cause against it; a rather novel mode of procedure to me at least, if not to the College authorities.

My son, in reference to this, the important point of all, declares that he was sitting at the table in the Provost's room, the lecture being upon the 30th Article of the Church of England, and was, he admits, scribbling upon the paper he had taken into the room for the purpose of using it if necessary for taking his notes; he had also a pencil in his hand, but was not writing but merely drawing lines, circles, squares, and triangles, with his head leaning forward, as a person usually sits in a writing posture, when all at once, he was most suddenly surprised by a hand being thrust in front of him, which attempted to grasp the paper he was thus using; very naturally, and as it were instinctively, under the surprise thus suddenly created, he grasped the paper also, to prevent the intruder from taking it thus rudely from him, and at the same time looking up saw it was the Provost, who then had hold of the paper, his hands being between my son's hands, and while they were in this position struggling for the paper, the Provost desired him to give it

up to him; my son never answered nor spoke at all, but very naturally, being thus excited by the surprise, clung to his property; as I now contend he was justified in doing under the circumstances, because the Provost having unfortunately, by his own act, set him the example by attempting by force to obtain the paper, was not in a position to blame a youth for resisting with force. The Provost then loosened his grasp of the paper, which was now all crumpled up, and ordered my son out of the room. My son never spoke once during the whole proceeding, but now paused for a moment to recover from his surprise, and to consider what he should do, when the Provost instantly repeating his order for him to go out of the room, with a threat of expulsion if he did not go, he walked quietly out without uttering a word.

Now upon this point of resisting by force the act of the Provost to snatch his paper from him in the manner stated, hangs the whole offence, and my son declares, that had the Provost remained in his seat and desired my son to bring him the paper, he should most certainly have complied with his request, but feeling the attempt to take it by force, and only to ask for it when the attempt to take it had proved unsuccessful, was a fair excuse for my son, especially, being surprised and consequently excited he resisted, when perhaps otherwise had he not been excited and confused by the surprise he might have, and probably should have acted differently. To support this statement, (there being no charge specified or guilt proved,) I will quote from the Provost's letter to me, complaining of my son's conduct on this occasion, in which he uses these words:—"I observed that while the rest of his year were engaged in taking notes of my lecture, he was amusing himself by drawing or scribbling, and *I went to his place, and attempted to take up the paper, which he kept from me by main force, without any kind of remonstrance or apology.*" Here the Provost admits *he attempted to take up the paper*, he does not say a word about having asked for it, but says, my son "*kept it from him by main force.*" Here is an admission by the Provost that he himself had used force, otherwise how could my son have *kept it from him by main force*, unless other force had been applied to render *main force* necessary

to keep it from him. And he states further, that my son did all this without any kind of remonstrance or apology, thereby admitting, the lad said nothing, making no remonstrance or apology. I really here must be excused for stating, with all deference to the opinion of the Provost, and to his views as to good manners, that should an apology be considered necessary at all, my son is more entitled to expect one, because he had only resisted force, (and that too applied with a surprise,) to retain possession of his paper, his own property, quite as much as his pencil, and he certainly should have been justified in resisting by force any attempt to force his pencil from him.

Here I contend that my son has been more sinned against than sinning. If the College is to be conducted upon the principles of Colleges at home, I contend that the students should be gentlemen, and if not gentlemen, they ought not to be there; but if gentlemen, then they are most certainly entitled to that courtesy which gentlemen have a right to expect from one another; and my son as a young gentleman, I contend, has not been treated as such by the Provost, in attempting to take by force his paper from him, instead of remaining in his seat, and calling upon my son to bring it up to him, which request would of course have instantly been complied with.

Then as to the second supposed charge, for not leaving the room at the instant, until the demand was repeated, I beg to state, that from the confusion arising out of the former transaction, my son hesitated for only a moment to collect his thoughts, and then immediately without a word of remonstrance, obeyed the order by quietly walking out of the room. What more could he asked of him under the circumstances? Here I think he most distinctly complied with the request without a word.

And in reference to the third supposed charge, I should first state, that from the receipt of the Provost's letter of complaint to me, my son has acted in everything he has done entirely under my directions, and if he has done anything wrong, I am responsible for it, and am ready and willing at any time to submit to an investigation of the subject; and if I have ill-advised the lad, I am willing

to make the most suitable apology therefor, because my intentions have been merely to defend my son from undue and unfair treatment. After the apology to which I shall hereafter refer, had been returned, I wrote to the Provost informing him that I should send my son to College again, and I did so with a view of urging an enquiry into the case, and I instructed him to present himself for lecture as usual, and if refused lecture, to ask for the reasons. This he did to Mr. Broughall, who refused him lecture, and when he asked the reason for it, was told the Provost had instructed him to answer no questions. So my son continued for two days without a reason being given why he should be deprived of his lectures. Here I may mention, that two of the Professors after refusing him lecture, without giving a reason, (which he was certainly entitled to, since he had not been tried or convicted of any offence,) took the men of his year into their *private rooms* to lecture, whither he followed for that purpose, claiming the same rights as the other men of his year. In reference to this, I beg to state that as my son did all this by my direction, I beg to apologize to those Professors both in my son's name and for myself, assuring them that neither my son nor myself had the slightest wish or intention to insult or offend them, that course being only taken to maintain a right, which my son, I contend, has not yet by any act of his or mine permitted a forfeiture.

The reason I was driven to send my son to lecture was because, the apology not being received, I was desired to withdraw him quietly from College, which I could never consent to do, and no investigation into his conduct being offered, I was forced to take this course to bring one about; and since an investigation has been promised he has ceased to present himself for lecture.

Now my son's whole offending, as I stated before, hangs upon the question, whether he had not a right to apply force to force, to retain his own private property, under the peculiar circumstances of surprise and rudeness. I contend he had for the reasons I have given above.

I shall now refer generally to the case—my son, a lad now not nineteen years of age, enters Trinity College (a Church University)

nearly three years ago, and no lad with a fairer reputation than his ever entered that College, and to prove my assertion, I tender for your inspection the united written testimony of every master of Upper Canada College as attached to his quarterly returns for *nine years*, viz.: thirty-six different consecutive characters, all of the first class, for good conduct; and as to proficiency, though not so brilliant as many, the Principal once stated publicly, when presenting prizes, that he had pleasure in pronouncing him *the best grounded boy* in Upper Canada College.

Since his reception into Trinity College, I defy the institution to bring one tittle against his character or reputation for everything that is honorable, upright and gentlemanly; but I am sorry to say that during last year, and while he was harder at work than he had ever been while at College, (because I specially requested the Provost not to let him work too hard while he was growing so fast for fear of injuring his health), while, I say, he was applying himself most sedulously in preparing for what is called the "*previous examination*," a most scandalous report was circulated in the neighbourhood by one of the *Professors*, to the effect that he would not be able to pass, indeed that he would be "*plucked*" before he has been tested or examined. This was most shameful cruelty to an undergraduate, who had never deserved such a report to be sent abroad of him, and who did actually pass that examination afterward in due course. This I state as the first act of injustice to my son, who had, as the sequel proved, not deserved such a slander. Another act of injustice towards him was perpetrated on Saturday last by another Professor stating to a friend of mine that they were to meet on Monday to expel my son, before he was tried or convicted. I shall not say that both these Professors may not be now sitting in judgment upon him; and now he is brought up without charges being specified, with a threat of expulsion over his head, uncondemned. Is this *British justice*? or is it tyranny? Is it in accordance with the practice at Oxford or Cambridge? or, is it not? I cannot say, because I have had no means of ascertaining. I contend my son has not offended against either the rules of the College, or those which guide gentlemen one towards another; and is he to

be crushed to the earth for the paltry charge against him, merely because "*a compromise must be fatal to the character of the College.*" And therefore is my son to be sacrificed? Is this the justice I, as one of those who assisted to my utmost in getting up a Church University, and to receive at the hands of that College, where we expected everything to be conducted upon those pure and spotless doctrines enunciated to us every Sabbath, of Christian love and charity? A promising lad, a perfect gentleman, with spotless character and reputation, because he resists the offensive and ungentlemanly insult offered him by his Provost, by following the example set him by his Professor, is to undergo the severest penalty which the College has power to inflict for the most heinous offence, especially after having tendered, through his parent, the most abject apology that could possibly be given for an offence twice as grievous, and that apology dictated and written by that very Provost himself, carefully, cleanly, neatly, and without a blot or alteration or erasure.

I may here state that, having withdrawn the apology after it was returned to me, I am still willing, merely to make peace, and to avoid the exposure to the institution which an unfavorable termination to this unpleasant affair must necessarily involve, again present it, hoping you will see the justice of accepting a document which, by the addition of his signature at the bottom, makes it all his act as if he had written it himself, especially as the College has been in the habit of receiving apologies from other parties, which were only signed, not written by them.

GEORGE T. DENISON.

Rusholme, 26th April, 1858.

TRINITY COLLEGE,

TORONTO, 27th April, 1858.

SIR:

I am directed to inform you, that the sentence of expulsion from Trinity College, pronounced on you yesterday, by the Provost and Professors in Arts of the College, has been approved of by the Lord Bishop.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES MAGRATH.

To George T. Denison, Junr.